Response to 7/14/04 Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the present application as set forth below.

1. (Original) A document tracking method, comprising:

sending a document from a multifunction device to a network destination;

sending a tracking component for said document from said multifunction device to a receipt service; and

generating a return receipt based at least in part on said tracking component at said receipt service when said document is at said network destination to acknowledge receipt of said document by said network destination.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving confirmation of receipt of said document by said network destination at said receipt service, wherein said return receipt is based at least in part on said confirmation of receipt.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising manually activating delivery of said confirmation of receipt of said document at said network destination.

10/025,087

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein manually activating delivery of said confirmation of receipt of said document comprises accessing a network site through a uniform resource locator (URL).

5.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting authentication means with said document.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein at least the step of sending said tracking component is transparent to a user.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising posting said return receipt.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein posting said return receipt comprises sending said return receipt to a user-specified location.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein posting said return receipt comprises sending said return receipt to an email account.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein posting said return receipt is for access from said receipt service.

10/025,087

Response to 7/14/04 Office Action

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising posting a plurality of return receipts generated when said document is received at each of a plurality of network destinations to acknowledge receipt of said document by each of said plurality of network destinations for workflow management of said multifunction device.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising compiling said plurality of return receipts.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising posting a return receipt generated when said document is received at a forwarding destination for workflow management of said multifunction device.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a sender of said document designates delivery of said return receipt.

15. (Currently amended) A document tracking method, comprising:

sending an electronic document from a multifunction device to a network destination;

sending an electronic tracking component for said document from said multifunction device to a receipt service;

sending a confirmation of receipt to said receipt service when said electronic document is at said network destination; and

10/025,087

generating a return receipt at said receipt service based at least in part on said confirmation of receipt to acknowledge receipt of said electronic document by said network destination.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising automatically sending said confirmation of receipt from said network destination to said receipt service when said electronic document is at said network destination.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising manually activating delivery of said confirmation of receipt to said receipt service when said electronic document is at said network destination.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising sending a tracking component for said electronic document from said multifunction device to said receipt service, wherein said receipt service matches said tracking component with said confirmation of receipt to generate said return receipt.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising posting said return receipt based on a sender designation therefor.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising providing remote access to said return receipt.

10/025,087

Response to 7/14/04 Office Action

21.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising receiving a plurality of confirmation of receipts at said receipt service, said plurality of confirmation of receipts acknowledging receipt of said document by a plurality of network destinations.

22.   (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising posting a return receipt generated when said document is received at a forwarding destination.

23.   (Currently amended) A system for tracking a document, comprising:

a multifunction device for sending said document to a network destination;

a tracking component generated for said document and sent from said multifunction device;

a confirmation of receipt sent from said network destination when said document is at said network destination; and

a receipt service for receiving said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt and for generating a return receipt based at least in part on said tracking component and said confirmation of receipt to acknowledge receipt of said document by said network destination_and wherein the system is configured to deliver said document from the multifunction device to the network device without relying on an operational status of the receipt service.

10/025,087

Response to 7/14/04 Office Action

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said tracking component comprises computer-readable data for identifying said document and said confirmation of receipt comprises computer-readable data for confirming receipt of said document at said network destination.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said receipt service manages workflow of said multifunction device based at least in part on said return receipt.

26. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said return receipt is remotely accessible from said receipt service.

27. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein said receipt service receives a plurality of return receipts to acknowledge receipt of said document by each of a plurality of network destinations.

10/025,087